

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. - 28. (Canceled)

29. (Presently amended) A method for repressing production of beta-globin proteins and increasing production of gamma-globin proteins in a human cell, the method comprising:

providing at least one human beta-globin producing cell;

providing a vector encoding ferritin-H; and

inserting, in vitro, the vector encoding ferritin-H into the at least one beta-globin producing cell, whereby ferritin-H is produced in the cell, and the ferritin-H produced ~~binds to the promoter region of the beta globin gene of the beta globin producing cell at 148 to 153 bp from the transcription start site of the promoter region~~ and represses production of beta-globin proteins in the cell, and activates production of gamma-globin proteins in the cell.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein the step of inserting the vector encoding ferritin-H into the at least one beta-globin producing cell comprises transfecting the at least one beta-globin producing cell with the vector encoding ferritin-H.

31 - 37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29 wherein, in the step of providing a vector encoding ferritin-H, the ferritin-H is human ferritin-H.

39. (New) The method of claim 29 wherein the ferritin-H produced binds to at least one of the 5' and 3' regions of the gamma-globin gene of the human beta-globin producing cell and stimulates transcription thereof.

40. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the ferritin-H produced binds to the promoter region of the beta-globin gene of the beta-globin producing cell at -148 to -153 bp from the transcription start site of the promoter region and represses production of beta-globin proteins in the cell.